



Board of Health Agenda

Date: August 19, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Administrative

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2020

Time: 2:00pm

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

In accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, § 20 relating to the COVID-19 emergency, the July 29, 2020 public meeting of the Arlington Board of Health shall be physically closed to the public to avoid group congregation. The meeting shall instead be held virtually using Zoom.

Public access to this meeting shall be provided in the following manner:

Real-time public comment can be addressed to the Board of Health utilizing the Zoom virtual meeting software for remote participation. This application will allow attendees to request an opportunity for public comment, and allow the Board Chair to grant attendees the opportunity for public comment. Attendees can use either phone or computer to participate in the meeting. Public comment can also be sent in advance of the meeting by emailing the Board of Health at boh@town.arlington.ma.us by no later than 5pm on July 28, 2020. Submitted public comment will be read into the record at the appropriate points in the meeting.

Zoom Login instructions:

Instructions and the meeting link for this specific meeting can be found on the Board's agenda and minutes page or on the Town's meeting calendar. The meeting registration information is listed below. When attendees enter the meeting, they will be placed into a virtual waiting room. Attendees will be admitted into the meeting from the waiting room at the start of the meeting.

Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/join/tJEucuiqpjotGtC0B-t9K1DEz2y1VVEtIynM>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

On this agenda:

2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes from July 29, 2020
3. UPDATES:

COVID-19 Situational Update

4. UPDATES:

Public Health Nurse

5. UPDATES:

Environmental Health

6. UPDATES:

Restaurants

PUBLIC COMMENT

Adjourn



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Department of Health and Human Services
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BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

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Agenda Items

1. ADMINISTRATIVE

Director Natasha Waden provided the following opening statement. Thank you for joining the meeting today. Consistent with the Governor's orders suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law and allowing us to adhere to social distancing requirements during the COVID-19 crisis, this Town of Arlington Board of Health meeting is being held virtually via Zoom for audio and video participation of Board Members and the public.

Guidelines, controls, and procedures for conducting the virtual meeting were provided to ensure that the meeting is safe and effective. Confirmation was made that all members and persons anticipated on the July 29, 2020 agenda were present and had audio and visual capabilities.

Director Waden continued her statements by informing all participants that in order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, the Town of Arlington has been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will have 2 public comment periods during the meeting during which members of the public will be able to provide comments to the Board. If you would like to comment during the public comment period, please use the "Raise Hand" function if on a computer, or "Dial *9" if on the phone. When your name or phone number is called, and you are unmuted, please state your name and provide your comment. All attendees will be afforded 3 minutes for any comments.

For this meeting, the Board of Health is convening by telephone and computer conference via Zoom as posted on the Town's Website identifying how the public may join.

As the meeting facilitator, Kylee Sullivan will be the only participant sharing their screen. Board Members and Department Staff may be participating by video conference. Accordingly, please be aware that other folks may be able to see you. Anything that you broadcast may be captured by the recording.

All of the materials for this meeting are available on the Novus Agenda dashboard, and it was recommended that Board Members and the public follow the agenda as posted on Novus unless otherwise noted. Similarly, members of the public are encouraged to provide written public comments, but should understand that not all participants, nor all Board Members, will be able to see any written comments during the course of this meeting.

Director Waden reviewed some ground rules for effective and clear conduct of our business and to ensure accurate meeting minutes.

Marie Walsh Condon, the Board Chair, will introduce each agenda item. After the item is presented, she will go down the list of Board Members, inviting each by name to provide any comment, questions, or motions. Please hold comments or questions until your name is called and you are unmuted. For any response, please wait until the Chair yields the floor to you, and state your name before speaking.

Finally, each vote taken during this meeting will be conducted by roll-call vote.

For anyone who speaks during today's meeting please remember to speak clearly in a way that helps generate accurate minutes.

When you entered this meeting, you were automatically muted. During this meeting you will be unmuted individually as needed. These controls are in place to ensure that today's meeting is safe and

effective. At this time, I would like to confirm that all members and persons anticipated on today's agenda are present and can hear me.

Board Members, when I call your name and unmute you, please respond in the affirmative.

1. Marie Walsh Condon, Present
2. Kevin Fallon, Present
3. Ken Kohlberg, Present

Health Department staff, please respond in the affirmative when I call your name and unmute you.

1. Kylee Sullivan, Present
2. Pat Martin, Present
3. Jessica Kerr, Present
4. Laura Munsey, Present
5. Emily Sullivan, Present

Are there any additional Applicants and Representatives, here regarding today's hearings?

1. Sarah Zuckerman – Keeping of Hens Applicant, Present

Director Waden yielded the floor the Board of Health Chair, Dr. Marie Walsh Condon.

Thank you everyone for joining today's meeting. We will begin with the Acceptance of Meeting Minutes.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 24, 2020:

A motion was made by Dr. Kevin Fallon, which was seconded by Mr. Ken Kohlberg to accept the June 24, 2020 meeting minutes as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Marie Walsh Condon Aye
Kevin Fallon - Aye
Ken Kohlburg – Aye

Vote: Motion Approved 3-0 (unanimous).

3. COVID-19 SITUATIONLA UPDATE:

Director Waden informed the Board that to date there have been 321 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Arlington, as well as 32 probable cases. Of these positive cases, 249 have been confirmed as recovered. Director Waden further reported there have been 47 deaths related to COVID-19.

Director Waden yielded the floor to the Public Health Nurse Jessica Kerr who further described the difference between probable cases and confirmed cases. She stated that when antigen tests come back

as positive they are considered probable cases. Positive PCR test results are considered confirmed cases. She mentioned that probable cases are handled in the same manner as confirmed cases.

Ms. Kerr informed the Board that the Governor's Office has issued new guidance in regard to an updated Travel Order which will take effect August 1, 2020. This new Order requires travelers to the state of Massachusetts or residents who return to the state to fill out a "Massachusetts Travel Form" and to either quarantine for 14 days or provide a negative test result that was taken within 72 hours prior to their return or entry to Massachusetts. Excluded from this Travel Order are the New England states, as well as New York, New Jersey, and Hawaii which are currently considered low risk areas. The floor was yielded back to Director Waden.

Director Waden stated other highlights include: several complaints continue to be received in the office related to COVID-19 from establishments, patrons, or residents concerned about social distancing, masks, or guidelines not being followed. Director Waden informed the Board that the Department has hired 2 new Health Compliance Officers, one of whom will start Monday, and the second will be starting in September.

The Department continues to perform Contact Tracing through the Health Department staff, two school nurses, and the Council on Aging Nurse. The new Health Inspectors will also help with Contact Tracing as needed.

A new initiative will be to set up where residents can submit complaints via email which can be reviewed and filed electronically. Health Department staff is working with schools, recreation camps and day programs, as well as the business sector regarding COVID-19 guidelines. Additionally, the Department is looking into additional local testing sites for COVID-19. The staff will be meeting as a group tomorrow to discuss DESE guidelines and reviewing school reopening plans.

Food Establishments are submitting applications for outdoor dining permits. The Health Department inspects the outdoor dining areas to ensure that all safety guidelines are being followed.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE UPDATE:

Jessica Kerr stated that an initial meeting to plan for fall flu clinics was held and there will be several changes to clinics this year due to COVID-19. Discussions took place regarding possible drive thru flu clinics, and the possibility of contracting clinics out to local ambulance companies, especially to vaccinate the Town's senior population. Staff has been busy ordering supplies for flu clinics, as well as pre-planning for when a COVID-19 vaccine is available. More information will follow as planning progresses.

5. HEARING:

Keeping of Hens Permit Application- 10 Daniels Street

Inspector Sullivan reported the Health Department received an application for keeping of hens in June for 10 Daniels Street. The property currently has six hens on property and the coop is already built. The submitted application included very thorough plans for cleaning the coop and the property owner has plans to install hardware cloth along the base of the coop for pest-proofing. Inspector Sullivan conducted a site assessment and confirmed that the coop abides by setback requirements of the Town's Keeping of Hen's Bylaw. The applicant has not yet completed a keeping of hens course.

Ken Kohlberg asked if the Board was required to review the list of abutters and certified notifications, as they were absent from package. Inspector Sullivan reported that the Department received and reviewed a copy of all the information and certified mail receipts and that is sufficient for compliance with Town's Keeping of Hen's Bylaw.

Dr. Kevin Fallon reported that he had no questions or comments. He reported being curious about the abutters. The applicant reported that Daniels Street is adjacent to Surry Road and Mass Ave.

Inspector Sullivan made a recommendation to conditionally approve the permit with confirmation of a certification/verification of a completed keeping of hens course.

Motion to approve the Keeping of Hens Permit at 10 Daniels Street made by: Kevin Fallon

Seconded by: Kenneth Kohlberg

Roll Call Vote:

Board Members' roll -call vote on Dr. Fallon's Motion.

1. Marie Walsh Condon – approve
2. Kevin Fallon - approve
3. Ken Kohlberg – approve

Vote: 3-0 in the affirmative (unanimous) and conditional upon a completed keeping of hens course.

6. DISCUSSION:

Plastic Bag Ban

Director Waden reported that, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the State issued a plastic bag ban moratorium that lifted restrictions for bans for the use of plastic bags. Director Waden would like to push out the date until the end of the year through December 31, 2020 given the climate to allow the business to use up the stock they purchased when the moratorium went into effect.

Director Waden asked the Board to consider extending the moratorium to use plastic bags until December 31, 2020. She reported that a hearing would need to take place for an extension.

Ken Kohlberg asked if Jim Ballin and Zero Waste Arlington were a part of the plastic bag ban moratorium. Director Waden reported that Governor Baker issued and subsequently resolved the

moratorium to allow businesses to use plastic bags without penalties. Mr. Kohlberg asked the Department to draft an extension to review at the next meeting.

7. UPDATES:

Environmental Health

Inspector Martin reported that a Public Health Advisory was issued for harmful algal bloom (HAB) at Hill's Pond in Menotomy Rocks Park. He reported that the bloom is still present. The Department contacted the State and was informed that testing of HABs is being prioritizing for recreational bodies of water, such as permitted bathing beaches or boat launches. Inspector Martin explained that in order to lift a Public Health Advisory for HABs, the water must be tested. The Department continues to be in communication with the State about lifting the Public Health Advisory when appropriate.

Director Waden reported an increase in rodent complaints received by the Department. During the pandemic, non-emergency inspections were put on hold, or resolved over the phone. However, the Department has begun conducting rodent inspections again.

Director Waden reported two positive West Nile Virus (WNV) mosquito pools in Arlington. She stated that last month, catch basins were treated with larvicide by the East Middlesex Mosquito project. There will be a second application early next month. The Health Department issued a press release and town wide notice to take precautions against mosquitoes.

Director Waden provided updated on Arlington High School's and the Senior Center's ongoing construction projects. She reported that there is a residential construction project on Brattle Street involving jack hammering. The Department has received complaints related to this project regarding dust plumes, and construction debris extending to neighboring properties. The Department is actively monitoring this project.

8. UPDATES:

Restaurants

Inspector Martin reported that Adventure Pub is closing at the end of July and Common Ground is not expecting to reopen. Routine inspections continued to be conducted for food establishments in Town. To date, the Town has received 18 Temporary Outdoor Dining License Applications and approved three. Inspector Martin expects to approve a few more within the next couple of days.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Director Waden discussed scheduling a meeting on August 19th at 2:00 pm. Additionally she recommended that the Board meets monthly moving forward.

Additional meetings confirmed for:

September 9, 2020
October 14, 2020
November 18, 2020
December 16, 2020

Dr. Marie Walsh Condon stated that the final agenda item is the public comment period.

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The floor was yielded to Betsy Leondar Wright, from Friends of Spy Pond Park. Ms. Wright stated that for the last 18 years Friends of Spy Pond Park have had a "Fun Day." This year it has been cancelled due to COVID-19. They are awaiting information from the Recreation Department to determine if a scavenger hunt can occur throughout the month of September to replace "Fun Day." The scavenger hunt would be composed of a hunt for public art or for history clues scattered throughout the park. The hunt is geared toward small children and families. Small laminate signs would lead participants to a tackle box with books inside for children to take. Ms. Wright reported that, because this is a month-long event, it would not lead to people congregating in the park.

Marie Walsh Condon provided a few comments. Friends of Spy Pond Park should ask individuals to wear masks and maintain 6 ft of social distancing. Dr. Walsh Condon recommended that the scavenger hunt be created so that participants do not touch things, and she recommended using a scanner app on smart phones as a way to reduce touching common surfaces for clues, etc. Lastly, Dr. Walsh Condon recommended that book prizes be delivered to participants after the scavenger hunt is completed.

Director Waden stated the permit request was forwarded on by Recreation Department Director, Joe Connelly, and that the Health Department will incorporate the Board's recommendations in the permit request review.

The Board stated that they appreciated the thought put into it event.

Motion to Adjourn made by Kevin Fallon, 2nd by Ken Kohlberg to adjourn.

Vote: 3-0 Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:55 pm.